**Power generation from RGPPL**

*299. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether power generation from Ratnagiri Gas and Power Pvt. Ltd. has been suspended;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company has expressed its inability to draw the costly naphtha based power from RGPPL;

(d) if so, how the restructuring of Dabhol through RGPPL would be commercially viable; and

(e) if not, the status of revival of RGPPL?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) RGPPL having fulfilled its one time commitment to supply infirm power of 346 million units, to meet the peak summer requirement of Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Limited (MSEDCL) in the absence of further demand for power by MSEDCL from this plant, the power generation has been suspended.

(c) Yes, Sir.

**(d)** and (e) Commercial viability of RGPPL project is based on LNG/ gas as fuel. Full load commercial operations will commence once gas is available. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MOPNG) Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) who have been entrusted with the responsibility of sourcing LNG/gas for the plant have indicated that LNG/gas is likely to be available by March, 2007.

**Collaborations between India and UK**

300. SHRIMATI S.G INDIRA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the best scientific minds from institutions in India and Britain would collaborate in a series of high end research projects under a new multi-million pound programme;